AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for improving insulin resistance, which comprises administering orally to a patient in need thereof an insulin resistance-improving agent comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin as an active ingredient to a patient in need of improvement of insulin resistance,

wherein the patient suffers from a disease or symptom of hyperinsulinism, abnormal lipid metabolism, arteriosclerosis, abnormal vascular endothelial function, coronary artery disease, cardiovascular disease, renal dysfunction, hypertension, fatty liver, type 2 diabetes, hyperuricemia, multiple risk factor syndrome or gestational diabetes, and

wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is selected from the group consisting of colestimide, cholestyramine resin, colestipol, sevelamer hydrochloride, and colesevelam hydrochloride.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the patient in need of improvement of insulin resistance suffers from a disease or symptom of type 2 diabetes. ~~the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin has a bile acid-adsorbing ability.~~

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is colestimide.

6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, with which an oral hypoglycemic agent is administered simultaneously, separately, or successively to the oral administration of the insulin resistance-improving agent.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein the oral hypoglycemic agent is selected from the group consisting of α-glucosidase inhibitors, biguanides, insulin sensitivity improving agents, sulfonylurea agents, rapid-acting insulin secretagogues, pharmaceutical preparations comprising GLP-1 or derivatives thereof, and DPP-IV inhibitors.

8-35. (Cancelled)

36. (New) A method for improving insulin resistance, which comprises selecting a patient in need of improvement of insulin resistance from patients suffering from a disease or symptom of hyperinsulinism, abnormal lipid metabolism, arteriosclerosis, abnormal vascular endothelial function, coronary artery disease, cardiovascular disease, renal dysfunction, hypertension, fatty liver, type 2 diabetes, hyperuricemia, multiple risk factor syndrome or gestational diabetes, and administering orally to the thus selected patient an insulin resistance-improving agent comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin as an active ingredient,

wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is selected from the group consisting of colestimide, cholestyramine resin, colestipol, sevelamer hydrochloride, and colesevelam hydrochloride.

37. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein the patient is suffering from a disease or symptom of type 2 diabetes.

38. (New) The method according to claim 36 or claim 37, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is colestimide.

39. (New) The method according to claim 36 or claim 37, with which an oral hypoglycemic agent is administered simultaneously, separately, or successively to the oral administration of the insulin resistance-improving agent.

40. (New) The method according to claim 36 or claim 37, wherein the oral hypoglycemic agent is selected from the group consisting of α-glucosidase inhibitors, biguanides, insulin sensitivity improving agent, sulfonylurea agents, rapid-acting insulin secretagogues, pharmaceutical preparations comprising GLP-l or derivatives thereof, and DPP-IV inhibitors.

41. (New) A method for improving insulin resistance, which comprises determining a patient suffering from a disease or symptom of hyperinsulinism, abnormal lipid metabolism, arteriosclerosis, abnormal vascular endothelial function, coronary artery disease, cardiovascular disease, renal dysfunction, hypertension, fatty liver, type 2 diabetes, hyperuricemia, multiple risk factor syndrome or gestational diabetes as a patient in need of improvement of insulin resistance, and administering orally to the thus determined patient an insulin resistance-improving agent comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin as an active ingredient,

wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is selected from the group consisting of colestimide, cholestyramine resin, colestipol, sevelamer hydrochloride, and colesevelam hydrochloride.

42. (New) The method according to claim 41, wherein the patient is suffering from a disease or symptom of type 2 diabetes.

43. (New) The method according to claim 41 or claim 42, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable anion exchange resin is colestimide.

44. (New) The method according to claim 41 or claim 42, with which an oral hypoglycemic agent is administered simultaneously, separately, or successively to the oral administration of the insulin resistance-improving agent.

45. (New) The method according to claim 41 or claim 42, wherein the oral hypoglycemic agent is selected from the group consisting of α-glucosidase inhibitors, biguanides, insulin sensitivity improving agents, sulfonylurea agents, rapid-acting insulin secretagogues, pharmaceutical preparations comprising GLP-l or derivatives thereof, and DPP-IV inhibitors.